

We claim:

1. A method of reducing recovery time of a mammal undergoing general anaesthesia
5 comprising the administration of an effective amount of D-Ribose to said mammal.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose is administered orally before and after general anaesthesia.

10 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose is from 2 to 10 grams and is administered two to four times daily.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein an effective amount of pyrogen-free D-Ribose is administered intravenously during and after general anaesthesia.

15 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose is 20-300 mg/kg/hour.

20 6. A method of reducing recovery time of a mammal undergoing general anaesthesia wherein an effective amount of D-Ribose is administered orally to the mammal when the mammal is able to ingest the D-Ribose and an effective amount of pyrogen-free D-Ribose is administered intravenously to the mammal when the mammal is unconscious or otherwise unable to ingest the D-Ribose.

25 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose to be administered orally is 2 to 10 gm and is administered two to four times daily and the effective amount of pyrogen-free D-Ribose to be administered intravenously is 20-300 mg/kg/hour.

8. A method for enhancing recovery from sepsis comprising of the administration of

D-Ribose to the mammal suffering from sepsis.

5 9. A composition suitable for intravenous administration comprising substantially pure, pyrogen-free D-Ribose.

10. The composition of claim 9 further comprising D-Glucose.

10 11. The composition of claim 10 comprising 5% to 10% pyrogen-free D-Ribose and 5% to 10% D-Glucose.